

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Eija Marjut Pirhonen)	Examiner:
)	Camie S. Thompson
Serial No.: 09/981,676)	
)	Art Unit: 1774
Filed: October 16, 2001)	
)	Conf. No.: 6631
Title: BONE GRAFTING MATERIALS)	

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

I, EIJA MARJUT PIRHONEN, hereby declare as follows:


1. I am the applicant in the above-referenced patent application, being the inventor of the subject matter disclosed and claimed therein.
2. I have reviewed the United States Patent and Trademark Office Action issued September 26, 2006.
3. In response, I have prepared a sintered glass fiber scaffold according to the procedure set forth in Example 1 of the above-referenced patent application. Specifically, I obtained bioactive glass fibers having a diameter of about 0.175 mm and a length of about 10 mm. I placed 2 grams of the glass fibers onto a steel plate, and then placed the plate with the glass fibers into a furnace. I sintered the glass fibers by heating in the furnace at a temperature of 655 °C for 30 minutes. I then obtained scanning electron microscope (SEM) images of the sintered glass fiber scaffold. Two of these images are included as

Attachments A and B with the Amendment and Response to the Office Action issued on September 26, 2006.

4. As can be seen in the SEM images (Attachments A and B), the glass fibers are fused together into a single coalesced mass, wherein the original fiber boundaries are no longer present in the sintered glass fiber scaffold.
5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

8th December 2006
Date


Eija Marjut Pirhonen